

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

FAST et al.

Confirmation No.: 1985

Serial No.

10/718,528

Group Art Unit:

3611

Filed

November 24, 2003

Examiner:

J. Silbermann

Title

SIGN HOLDER

Atty. Dkt. No.:

P68255US2

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENTS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action of February 25, 2005. In the Office Action, the Examiner requested an election of one of six identified species in the application. Further, the Examiner has requested a listing of all claims readable on the elected species.

Applicants elect the species number III, exemplified by Figures 9-10, including, of course, Figures 9A and 9B.

The Examiner has stated that no claim is generic. It is respectfully submitted that this is incorrect and reconsideration is requested. The following claims are generic to all of the species in the application:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 24, 25, 27, and 28.

Broadly speaking, these claims recite the support member having a backing member, a cover, a hinge pivotally interconnecting the backing member and the cover, and a latch securing the cover to the backing member, etc. The claims further recite a sign having a tab along one edge insertable through an aperture located in the cover. This general combination of elements is common to all of the species in the application and, thus, the above recited claims are generic.